

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3005

To encourage and promote urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production practices, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 6, 2018

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To encourage and promote urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production practices, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Urban Agriculture Act  
5 of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF  
7 PURPOSES.**

8       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

- 1                         (1) agricultural producers are developing innovative agricultural production practices and using traditional production practices in innovative locations, such as urban areas;
- 5                         (2) those urban agricultural practices continue—
- 7                         (A) to create jobs and develop the work-force;
- 9                         (B) to increase domestic food production;
- 10                         (C) to support local food infrastructure;
- 11                         (D) to create new regional markets for agricultural producers, consumers, and businesses;
- 13                         (E) to revitalize abandoned or underused property and buildings;
- 15                         (F) to enhance green space and improve air quality;
- 17                         (G) to provide pollinator habitat;
- 18                         (H) to encourage community engagement;
- 19                         (I) to mitigate stormwater runoff;
- 20                         (J) to create energy efficiencies;
- 21                         (K) to strengthen relationships between urban consumers and agriculture; and
- 23                         (L) to inspire a new generation of agricultural producers in the United States; and

10 (B) preserves the natural resources of the  
11 United States.

12 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

17                   (2) to articulate a broadly inclusive description  
18                 of urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural  
19                 practices that includes—

(A) new and innovative agricultural practices;

(B) traditional agricultural practices in nontraditional locations; and

24 (C) for-profit and nonprofit production  
25 methods; and

## **5 SEC. 3. OFFICE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIVE 6 PRODUCTION.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of the Department of  
8 Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6911  
9 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

10 "SEC. 221. OFFICE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVA-  
11 TIVE PRODUCTION.

12            "(a) OFFICE.—

13               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-  
14       lish in the Department an Office of Urban Agri-  
15       culture and Innovative Production.

“(2) DIRECTOR.—The Secretary shall appoint a senior official to serve as the Director of the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (referred to in this section as the ‘Director’).

20               “(3) MISSION.—The mission of the Office of  
21               Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production shall  
22               be to encourage and promote urban, indoor, and  
23               other emerging agricultural practices, including—

1               “(A) community gardens and farms lo-  
2               cated in urban areas, suburbs, and urban clus-  
3               ters;

4               “(B) rooftop farms, outdoor vertical pro-  
5               duction, and green walls;

6               “(C) indoor farms, greenhouses, and high-  
7               tech vertical technology farms;

8               “(D) hydroponic, aeroponic, and aquaponic  
9               farm facilities; and

10             “(E) other innovations in agricultural pro-  
11               duction, as determined by the Secretary.

12             “(4) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director shall be  
13               responsible for engaging in activities to carry out the  
14               mission described in paragraph (3), including by—

15             “(A) managing and facilitating programs,  
16               including for community gardens, urban farms,  
17               rooftop agriculture, and indoor vertical produc-  
18               tion;

19             “(B) coordinating with the agencies and  
20               officials of the Department;

21             “(C) advising the Secretary on issues relat-  
22               ing to the mission of the Office of Urban Agri-  
23               culture and Innovative Production;

24             “(D) ensuring that the programs of the  
25               Department are updated to address urban, in-

1           door, and other emerging agricultural produc-  
2           tion practices, in coordination with the officials  
3           in the Department responsible for those pro-  
4           grams;

5           “(E) engaging in external relations with  
6           stakeholders and coordinating external partner-  
7           ships to share best practices, provide  
8           mentorship, and offer technical assistance;

9           “(F) facilitating interagency program co-  
10          ordination and developing interagency tools for  
11          the promotion of existing programs and re-  
12          sources;

13          “(G) creating resources that identify com-  
14          mon State and municipal best practices for  
15          navigating local policies;

16          “(H) reviewing and improving farm enter-  
17          prise development programs that provide infor-  
18          mation about financial literacy, business plan-  
19          ning, and food safety record keeping;

20          “(I) coordinating networks of community  
21          gardens and facilitating connections to local  
22          food banks, in partnership with the Food and  
23          Nutrition Service; and

1                 “(J) collaborating with other Federal agen-  
2                 cies that use agricultural practices on-site for  
3                 food production or infrastructure.

4                 **“(b) URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIVE PRO-**  
5                 **DUCTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—**

6                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
7                 after the date of enactment of this section, the Sec-  
8                 retary shall establish an Urban Agriculture and In-  
9                 novative Production Advisory Committee (referred to  
10                 in this subsection as the ‘Committee’) to advise the  
11                 Secretary on—

12                 “(A) the development of policies relating to  
13                 urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural  
14                 production practices; and

15                 “(B) any other aspects of the implemen-  
16                 tation of this section.

17                 **“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—**

18                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall  
19                 be composed of 15 members, of whom—

20                 “(i) 5 shall be individuals who are ag-  
21                 ricultural producers, of whom—

22                 “(I) not fewer than 2 individuals  
23                 shall be agricultural producers located  
24                 in an urban area or urban cluster;  
25                 and

- 1                         “(II) not fewer than 2 individuals  
2                         shall be farmers that use innovative  
3                         technology, including indoor farming  
4                         and rooftop agriculture;
- 5                         “(ii) 2 shall be representatives from  
6                         an institution of higher education or exten-  
7                         sion program;
- 8                         “(iii) 1 shall be an individual who rep-  
9                         resents a nonprofit organization, which  
10                         may include a public health, environ-  
11                         mental, or community organization;
- 12                         “(iv) 1 shall be an individual who rep-  
13                         resents business and economic develop-  
14                         ment, which may include a business devel-  
15                         opment entity, a chamber of commerce, a  
16                         city government, or a planning organiza-  
17                         tion;
- 18                         “(v) 1 shall be an individual with sup-  
19                         ply chain experience, which may include a  
20                         food aggregator, wholesale food distributor,  
21                         food hub, or an individual who has direct-  
22                         to-consumer market experience;
- 23                         “(vi) 1 shall be an individual from a  
24                         financing entity; and

1                     “(vii) 4 shall be individuals with re-  
2                     lated experience or expertise in urban, in-  
3                     door, and other emerging agriculture pro-  
4                     duction practices, as determined by the  
5                     Secretary.

6                     “(B) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Sec-  
7                     retary shall appoint the members of the Com-  
8                     mittee not later than 180 days after the date of  
9                     enactment of this section.

10                    “(3) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

11                    “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
12                     subparagraph (B), a member of the Committee  
13                     shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

14                    “(B) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Of the  
15                     members first appointed to the Committee—

16                    “(i) 5 of the members, as determined  
17                     by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a  
18                     term of 3 years;

19                    “(ii) 5 of the members, as determined  
20                     by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a  
21                     term of 2 years; and

22                    “(iii) 5 of the members, as determined  
23                     by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a  
24                     term of 1 year.

1                 “(C) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the  
2                 Committee—

3                         “(i) shall not affect the powers of the  
4                 Committee; and

5                         “(ii) shall be filled as soon as prac-  
6                 ticable in the same manner as the original  
7                 appointment.

8                 “(D) CONSECUTIVE TERMS.—An initial  
9                 appointee of the committee may serve an addi-  
10                 tional consecutive term if the member is re-  
11                 appointed by the Secretary.

12                 “(4) MEETINGS.—

13                 “(A) FREQUENCY.—The Committee shall  
14                 meet not fewer than 3 times per year.

15                 “(B) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than  
16                 60 days after the date on which the members  
17                 are appointed under paragraph (2)(B), the  
18                 Committee shall hold the first meeting of the  
19                 Committee.

20                 “(5) DUTIES.—

21                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee  
22                 shall—

23                         “(i) develop recommendations—

24                         “(I) to further the mission of the  
25                 Office of Urban Agriculture and Inno-

vative Production described in subsection (a)(3); and

“(II) regarding the establishment of urban agriculture policy priorities and goals within the Department;

“(ii) advise the Director on policies initiatives administered by the Office Urban Agriculture and Innovative Protection;

“(iii) evaluate and review ongoing research and extension activities relating to urban, indoor, and other innovative agricultural practices;

“(iv) identify new and existing barriers to successful urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production practices; and

“(v) provide additional assistance and advice to the Director as appropriate.

“(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, and each year thereafter, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and

1           Forestry of the Senate a report describing the  
2           recommendations developed under subparagraph  
3           (A)(i).

4           “(6) PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

5           “(A) COMPENSATION.—A member of the  
6           Committee shall serve without compensation.

7           “(B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of  
8           the Committee shall be allowed travel expenses,  
9           including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in ac-  
10          cordance with section 5703 of title 5, United  
11          States Code.

12         “(7) TERMINATION.—

13         “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph  
14          (B), the Committee shall terminate on  
15          the date that is 5 years after the date on which  
16          the members are appointed under paragraph  
17          (2)(B).

18         “(B) EXTENSIONS.—Before the date on  
19          which the Committee terminates, the Secretary  
20          may renew the Committee for 1 or more 2-year  
21          periods.

22         “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
23          is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
24          \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year there-  
25          after.”.

1   **SEC. 4. URBAN AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT.**

2       (a) DEFINITION OF DIRECTOR.—In this section, the  
3   term “Director” means the Director of the Office of  
4   Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production.

5       (b) FARM NUMBERS.—The Secretary shall provide  
6   for the assignment of a farm number (as defined in section  
7   718.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect  
8   on the date of enactment of this Act)) for rooftop farms,  
9   indoor farms, and other urban farms, as determined by  
10   the Secretary.

11       (c) GRANT AUTHORITY.—

12           (1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this  
13   subsection, the term “eligible entity” means—  
14                  (A) a community organization;  
15                  (B) a nonprofit organization;  
16                  (C) a unit of local government;  
17                  (D) a Tribal government;  
18                  (E) any school that serves any of grades  
19   kindergarten through grade 12; and  
20                  (F) an institution of higher education.

21           (2) GRANTS.—The Director may award com-  
22   petitive grants to eligible entities to support the de-  
23   velopment of urban agriculture and innovative pro-  
24   duction.

25           (3) FUNDING PRIORITY.—In awarding grants  
26   under this subsection, priority shall be given to an

1 eligible entity that uses and provides an evaluation  
2 of a grant received under this subsection—

3 (A) to plan and construct gardens or non-  
4 profit farms;

5 (B) to operate community gardens or non-  
6 profit farms that—

7 (i) produce food for donation;

8 (ii) have a demonstrated environmental benefit and educational component;  
9 and

10 (iii) are part of community efforts to address local food security needs;

11 (C) to educate a community on—

12 (i) issues relating to food systems, including connections between rural farmers  
13 and urban communities;

14 (ii) nutrition;

15 (iii) environmental impacts, including pollinator health, soil fertility, composting,  
16 heat islands, and storm water runoff; and

17 (iv) agricultural production, including pest and disease management; and

18 (D) to provide multiple small dollar equity investments to help offset start-up costs relat-

#### **9 (d) PILOT PROJECTS.—**

10                   (1) URBAN AND SUBURBAN COUNTY COMMIT-  
11                   TEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a pilot program for not fewer than 5 years that establishes 10 county committees in accordance with section 8(b)(5)(B)(ii)(II) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590h(b)(5)(B)) to operate in counties located in urban or suburban areas with a high concentration of urban or suburban farms.

(B) EFFECT.—Nothing in this paragraph requires or precludes the establishment of a Farm Service Agency office in a county in

1           which a county committee is established under  
2           subparagraph (A).

3           (C) REPORT.—For fiscal year 2019 and  
4           each fiscal year thereafter through fiscal year  
5           2023, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-  
6           mittee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-  
7           resentatives and the Committee on Agriculture,  
8           Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report  
9           describing a summary of—

10                 (i) the status of the pilot program  
11                 under subparagraph (A);

12                 (ii) meetings and other activities of  
13                 the committees established under that sub-  
14                 paragraph; and

15                 (iii) the types and volume of assist-  
16                 ance and services provided to farmers in  
17                 counties in which county committees are  
18                 established under that subparagraph.

19                 (2) INCREASING COMMUNITY COMPOST AND RE-  
20                 DUCING FOOD WASTE.—

21                 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting  
22                 through the Director (referred to in this para-  
23                 graph as the “Secretary”), shall carry out pilot  
24                 projects under which the Secretary shall offer  
25                 to enter into cooperative agreements with local

1 or municipal governments in not fewer than 10  
2 States to develop and test strategies for plan-  
3 ning and implementing municipal compost  
4 plans and food waste reduction plans.

5 (B) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES AND PURPOSES  
6 OF PILOT PROJECTS.—Under a cooperative  
7 agreement entered into under this paragraph,  
8 the Secretary shall provide assistance to mu-  
9 nicipalities, counties, local governments, or city  
10 planners, as appropriate, to carry out planning  
11 and implementing activities that will—

- 12 (i) generate compost;
- 13 (ii) increase access to compost for ag-  
14 ricultural producers;
- 15 (iii) reduce reliance on, and limit the  
16 use of, fertilizer;
- 17 (iv) improve soil quality;
- 18 (v) encourage waste management and  
19 permaculture business development;
- 20 (vi) increase rainwater absorption;
- 21 (vii) reduce municipal food waste; and
- 22 (viii) divert food waste from landfills.

23 (C) EVALUATION AND RANKING OF APPLI-  
24 CATIONS.—

10 (I) anticipates or demonstrates  
11 economic benefits;

12 (II) incorporates plans to make  
13 compost easily accessible to agricul-  
14 tural producers, including community  
15 gardeners;

(III) integrates other food waste strategies, including food recovery efforts; and

19 (IV) provides for collaboration  
20 with multiple partners.

grant in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of the amount of the grant.

13                   (3)    HEALTHY    FOOD    HEALTHY    ENVIRON-  
14   MENT.—

(vi) an economic development corpora-  
tion;

(vii) a community supported agri-  
culture program;

(viii) an institution of higher education; and

(ix) a State, local, or Tribal agency.

(B) HEALTHY FOOD HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT PILOT PROJECTS.—

17 (I) healthy food consumption and  
18 good environmental practices; and

(II) direct public health outcomes

(ii) CRITERIA.—In selecting pilot projects to receive grants under this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

24 (I) support pilot projects that—

(bb) have demonstrated community and partnership support from local planning entities;

8 (cc) use strategies that im-  
9 prove the use of agricultural pro-  
10 ducer conservation practices and  
11 improve environmental effi-  
12 ciencies; and

13 (dd) provide to communities  
14 evidence-based nutrition and en-  
15 vironmental education; and

16 (II) give priority to pilot projects  
17 that—

(aa) are located in—

(AA) underserved communities; or

(BB) identified food  
deserts:

23 (bb) equally target good con-  
24 servation practices and healthy  
25 food consumption;

1 (cc) demonstrate strong  
2 urban, suburban, and rural link-  
3 ages; and

(dd) provide locally or regionally produced fruits and vegetables.

## 11 (I) Urban communities.

## 12 (II) Rural communities.

### 13 (III) Peri-urban communities.

14 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
15 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
16 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year  
17 thereafter.

## 18 SEC. 5. RISK MANAGEMENT.

19           (a) FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE.—Section 522(c) of  
20 the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)) is  
21 amended—

22                   (1) by redesignating paragraph (24) as para-  
23                   graph (26); and

24 (2) by inserting after paragraph (23) the fol-  
25 lowing:

1               “(24) GREENHOUSE POLICY.—

2               “(A) IN GENERAL.—

3               “(i) RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-  
4               MENT.—The Corporation shall carry out  
5               research and development, or offer to enter  
6               into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more  
7               qualified persons to carry out research and  
8               development, regarding a policy to insure,  
9               in a controlled environment such as a  
10               greenhouse—

11               “(I) the production of flori-  
12               culture, nursery, and bedding plants;

13               “(II) the establishment of  
14               cuttings or tissue culture in a growing  
15               medium; or

16               “(III) other similar production,  
17               as determined by the Secretary.

18               “(ii) AVAILABILITY OF POLICY OR  
19               PLAN OF INSURANCE.—Notwithstanding  
20               the last sentence of section 508(a)(1), and  
21               section 508(a)(2), the Corporation shall  
22               make a policy described in clause (i) avail-  
23               able if the requirements of section 508(h)  
24               are met.

1                 “(B) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DE-  
2 SCRIBED.—Research and development described  
3 in subparagraph (A)(i) shall evaluate the effec-  
4 tiveness of policies for the production of plants  
5 in a controlled environment, including policies  
6 that—

- 7                 “(i) are based on the risk of—  
8                         “(I) plant diseases introduced  
9 from the environment;  
10                         “(II) contaminated cuttings,  
11 seedlings, or tissue culture; or  
12                         “(III) Federal or State quar-  
13 antine or destruction orders associ-  
14 ated with the contaminated items de-  
15 scribed in subclause (II);  
16                         “(ii) consider other causes of loss ap-  
17 plicable to a controlled environment, such  
18 as a loss of electricity due to weather;  
19                         “(iii) consider appropriate best prac-  
20 tices to minimize the risk of loss;  
21                         “(iv) consider whether to provide cov-  
22 erage for various types of plants under 1  
23 policy or to provide coverage for 1 species  
24 or type of plant per policy;

1                 “(v) have streamlined reporting and  
2 paperwork requirements that take into ac-  
3 count short propagation schedules, variable  
4 crop years, and the variety of plants that  
5 may be produced in a single facility; and

6                 “(vi) provide protection for revenue  
7 losses.

8                 “(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year  
9 after the date of enactment of the Urban Agri-  
10 culture Act of 2018, the Corporation shall sub-  
11 mit to the Committee on Agriculture of the  
12 House of Representatives and the Committee  
13 on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the  
14 Senate a report that—

15                 “(i) describes the results of the re-  
16 search and development conducted under  
17 subparagraphs (A)(i) and (B); and

18                 “(ii) provides any recommendations  
19 with respect to those results.

20                 “(25) LOCAL FOODS.—

21                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

22                 “(i) RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-  
23 MENT.—The Corporation shall carry out  
24 research and development, or offer to enter  
25 into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more

1                   qualified persons to carry out research and  
2                   development, regarding a policy to insure  
3                   production—

4                         “(I) of floriculture, fruits, vegeta-  
5                         bles, poultry, livestock, or the prod-  
6                         ucts of floriculture, fruits, vegetables,  
7                         poultry, or livestock; and

8                         “(II) that is targeted toward  
9                         local consumers and markets.

10                         “(ii) AVAILABILITY OF POLICY OR  
11                         PLAN OF INSURANCE.—Notwithstanding  
12                         the last sentence of section 508(a)(1) and  
13                         section 508(a)(2), the Corporation shall  
14                         make a policy described in clause (i) avail-  
15                         able if the requirements of section 508(h)  
16                         are met.

17                         “(B) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DE-  
18                         SCRIBED.—Research and development described  
19                         in subparagraph (A)(i) shall evaluate the effec-  
20                         tiveness of policies for production targeted to-  
21                         ward local consumers and markets, including  
22                         policies that—

23                         “(i) consider small-scale production in  
24                         various areas, including urban, suburban,  
25                         and rural areas;

- 1                         “(ii) consider a variety of marketing  
2 strategies, including—  
3                             “(I) direct-to-consumer mar-  
4                             keting;  
5                             “(II) farmers markets;  
6                             “(III) farm-to-institution mar-  
7                             keting; and  
8                             “(IV) marketing through commu-  
9                             nity supported agriculture;  
10                         “(iii) allow for production in soil and  
11                         in alternative systems, such as vertical sys-  
12                         tems, greenhouses, rooftops, or hydroponic  
13                         systems;  
14                         “(iv) consider the price premium when  
15                         accounting for production or revenue  
16                         losses;  
17                         “(v) consider whether to provide cov-  
18                         erage—  
19                             “(I) for various types of produc-  
20                         tion under 1 policy; and  
21                             “(II) for 1 species or type of  
22                         plant per policy; and  
23                         “(vi) have streamlined reporting and  
24                         paperwork requirements.

1                 “(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year  
2                 after the date of enactment of the Urban Agri-  
3                 culture Act of 2018, the Corporation shall sub-  
4                 mit to the Committee on Agriculture of the  
5                 House of Representatives and the Committee  
6                 on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the  
7                 Senate a report that—

8                         “(i) examines whether a version of ex-  
9                 isting policies such as the whole-farm rev-  
10                 enue protection insurance plan may be tai-  
11                 lored to provide improved coverage for pro-  
12                 ducers of local foods;

13                         “(ii) describes the results of the re-  
14                 search and development conducted under  
15                 subparagraphs (A) and (B); and

16                         “(iii) includes any recommendations  
17                 with respect to those results.”.

18         (b) NONINSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—  
19         Section 196(l)(1)(B) of the Federal Agriculture Improve-  
20         ment and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333(l)(1)(B))  
21         is amended by inserting “, contract price, or other pre-  
22         mium price (such as a local, organic, or direct market  
23         price, as elected by the producer)” after “price”.

## 1 SEC. 6. SOIL AND CONSERVATION.

2 (a) INNOVATIVE CONSERVATION.—Section  
3 1240H(a)(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.  
4 3839aa–8(a)(2)) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (E) and  
6 (F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respectively; and  
7 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-  
8 lowing:

9 “(E) partner with farmers to develop inno-  
10 vative conservation practices for urban, indoor,  
11 or other emerging agricultural practices to in-  
12 crease—

13 “(i) green space;  
14 “(ii) pollinator habitat;  
15 “(iii) stormwater management;  
16 “(iv) carbon sequestration; and  
17 “(v) access to agricultural production  
18 sites through land tenure agreements and  
19 other contracts;”.

20 (b) SOIL TESTING AND REMEDIATION ASSIST-  
21 ANCE.—Chapter 5 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food  
22 Security Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after section  
23 1240M (16 U.S.C. 3839bb) the following:

1   **"SEC. 1240N. SOIL TESTING AND REMEDIATION ASSIST-**  
2                         **ANCE.**

3        "(a) IN GENERAL.—To improve the health and qual-  
4        ity of the soil used for agricultural production, the Sec-  
5        retary shall work with producers, including small-scale  
6        producers of food, to mitigate the presence of contami-  
7        nants in soil, including by carrying out subsections (b),  
8        (c), and (d).

9        "(b) SOIL TESTING PROTOCOL.—

10          "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consulta-  
11          tion with the Administrator of the Environmental  
12          Protection Agency, shall establish a coordinated soil  
13          testing protocol to simplify the process used by pro-  
14          ducers to evaluate soil health, including testing for—

15                  "(A) the optimal level of constituents in  
16                  and characteristics of the soil, such as organic  
17                  matter, nutrients, and the potential presence of  
18                  soil contamination from heavy metals, volatile  
19                  organic compounds, polycyclic aromatic hydro-  
20                  carbons, or other contaminants; and

21                  "(B) biological and physical characteristics  
22                  indicative of proper soil functioning.

23          "(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary  
24          shall make the soil testing protocol established under  
25          paragraph (1) available to the public.

1       “(c) SOIL ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION TECH-  
2    NICAL ASSISTANCE.—

3           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide  
4    technical assistance to a producer carrying out a soil  
5    assessment or soil remediation practice that shall in-  
6   clude—

7           “(A) an overall review of the health of the  
8    soil used by the producer for agricultural pro-  
9   duction;

10          “(B) testing of the soil, if applicable, to de-  
11   termine the suitability of the soil for agricul-  
12   tural production;

13          “(C) based on the results of the soil tested  
14   under subparagraph (B), a consultation with  
15   the producer and a determination of the qual-  
16   ity, health, and level of contamination of the  
17   soil adequate—

18           “(i) to protect against a health risk to  
19   producers;

20           “(ii) to limit contaminants from enter-  
21   ing agricultural products for human con-  
22   sumption; and

23           “(iii) to regenerate and sustain the  
24   soil; and

1                 “(D) recommendations on methods to con-  
2                 duct remediation or soil building efforts to im-  
3                 prove soils and ensure that the producers—

4                     “(i) are not growing products in soils  
5                 with high levels of heavy metals, volatile  
6                 organic compounds, polycyclic aromatic hy-  
7                 drocarbons, or other contaminants;

8                     “(ii) have appropriate information re-  
9                 garding financial resources and conserva-  
10                 tion practices available to keep soil healthy,  
11                 including practices, as defined in section  
12                 1240A; and

13                     “(iii) have access to experts, including  
14                 experts outside of the Natural Resources  
15                 Conservation Service, that may provide as-  
16                 sistance to producers to oversee and mon-  
17                 itor soil under remediation or regeneration  
18                 to ensure soils are suitable for agricultural  
19                 production in the future.

20                 “(2) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.—The Sec-  
21                 retary shall conduct education and outreach to pro-  
22                 ducers regarding the uses of soil and methods of ad-  
23                 dressing soil contamination and soil health degrada-  
24                 tion.

1        “(d) REFERRAL.—On the request of an agricultural  
2 producer, where soil is found to pose an imminent hazard  
3 to human health, the Secretary may refer the agricultural  
4 producer to the Administrator of the Environmental Pro-  
5 tection Agency for additional assistance for remediation  
6 under section 104(k) of the Comprehensive Environmental  
7 Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42  
8 U.S.C. 9604(k)).”.

9        (c) COVERED PRACTICES.—Sec 1240A(4)(A) of the  
10 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–1(4)(A))  
11 is amended—

12              (1) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the end;  
13              (2) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (vii);  
14              and  
15              (3) by inserting after clause (iv) the following:

16                  “(v) soil tests for—  
17                      “(I) heavy metals, volatile or-  
18                      ganic compounds, polycyclic aromatic  
19                      hydrocarbons, and other contami-  
20                      nants; and

21                      “(II) biological and physical soil  
22                      health;  
23                      “(vi) scientifically based soil remedi-  
24                      ation practices to be carried out by the

1                   producer, as determined by the Secretary;  
2                   and”.

3 **SEC. 7. DATA COLLECTION.**

4         (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 360 days after the  
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct  
6 as a follow-on study to the census of agriculture required  
7 to be conducted in calendar year 2017 under section 2  
8 of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (7 U.S.C. 2204g)  
9 a census of urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural  
10 production, including information about—  
11                 (1) community gardens and farms located in  
12 urban areas, suburbs, and urban clusters;  
13                 (2) rooftop farms, outdoor vertical production,  
14 and green walls;  
15                 (3) indoor farms, greenhouses, and high-tech  
16 vertical technology farms;  
17                 (4) hydroponic, aeroponic, and aquaponic farm  
18 facilities; and  
19                 (5) other innovations in agricultural production,  
20 as determined by the Secretary.

21         (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
22 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
23 \$8,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2019 through  
24 2021.

1   **SEC. 8. RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION INITIA-**  
2                         **TIVE.**

3                 The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act  
4   of 1990 is amended by inserting after section 1672D (7  
5   U.S.C. 5925f) the following:

6   **“SEC. 1672E. URBAN, INDOOR, AND OTHER EMERGING AG-**  
7                         **RICULTURAL PRODUCTION RESEARCH, EDU-**  
8                         **CATION, AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.**

9                 “(a) COMPETITIVE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION  
10 GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—In consultation with the Urban  
11 Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Com-  
12 mittee established under section 221(b) of the Department  
13 of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, the Secretary  
14 may make competitive grants to support research, edu-  
15 cation, and extension activities for the purposes of enhanc-  
16 ing urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural pro-  
17 duction by—

18                 “(1) facilitating the development of urban, in-  
19 door, and other emerging agricultural production,  
20 harvesting, transportation, aggregation, packaging,  
21 distribution, and markets;

22                 “(2) assessing and developing strategies to re-  
23 mediate contaminated sites;

24                 “(3) determining and developing the best pro-  
25 duction management and integrated pest manage-  
26 ment practices;

1           “(4) assessing the impacts of shipping and  
2 transportation on nutritional value;

3           “(5) identifying and promoting the horti-  
4 cultural, social, and economic factors that contribute  
5 to successful urban, indoor, and other emerging ag-  
6 ricultural production;

7           “(6) analyzing the means by which new agricul-  
8 tural sites are determined, including an evaluation of  
9 soil quality, the condition of a building, or local com-  
10 munity needs;

11          “(7) exploring new and innovative technologies  
12 that minimize energy, lighting systems, water, and  
13 other inputs for increased food production;

14          “(8) examining building material efficiencies  
15 and structural upgrades for the purpose of optimi-  
16 zing growth of agricultural products;

17          “(9) studying and developing new crop varieties  
18 and innovative agricultural products to connect to  
19 new markets; or

20          “(10) examining the impacts of crop exposure  
21 to urban elements on environmental quality and food  
22 safety.

23          “(b) GRANT TYPES AND PROCESS.—Subparagraphs  
24 (A) through (E) of paragraph (4), paragraph (7), and  
25 paragraph (11)(B) of subsection (b) of the Competitive,

1 Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C.  
2 3157) shall apply with respect to the making of grants  
3 under this section.

4       “(c) PRIORITY.—The Secretary may give priority to  
5 grant proposals under this section that involve—

6           “(1) the cooperation of multiple entities; or  
7           “(2) States or regions with a high concentration  
8           of or significant interest in urban farms, rooftop  
9           farms, and indoor production facilities.

10      “(d) FUNDING.—

11       “(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Of the funds of  
12       the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary  
13       shall use to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for  
14       the period of fiscal years 2019 through 2023, to re-  
15       main available until expended.

16       “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In  
17       addition to amounts made available under paragraph  
18       (1), there is authorized to be appropriated to carry  
19       out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
20       2019 through 2023.”.

